

4-12-2017

Montana Kaimin, April 12-18, 2017

Students of the University of Montana, Missoula

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ASUM-ption of power
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Hairy styles
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Softball's new ace from Vegas
page 7

In Search of Home:

Refugees struggle for a place in Missoula



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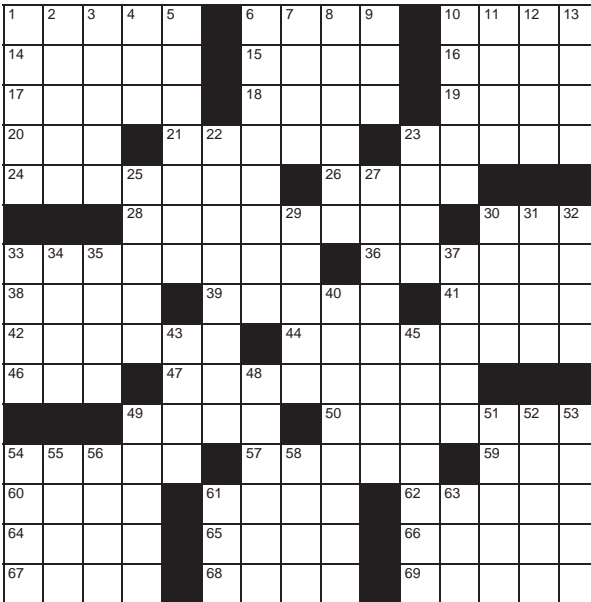


The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Jellied garnish
- 6 Not only that...
- 10 Sign near a school
- 14 Arm's length
- 15 "Oz" role played by Bert Lahr
- 16 Piercing site
- 17 Dog tag datum
- 18 In need of re-supply, maybe
- 19 Crowning
- 20 Assembled
- 21 Visual illusion genre
- 23 Money in the bank, say
- 24 Poisonous substance
- 26 Creep
- 28 Kitchen floor covering
- 30 Flying Brits, initially



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- 33 Uncompromising
- 36 Fine wool
- 38 Cosmetic additive
- 39 Break off
- 41 Screen symbol
- 42 Laundry room item
- 44 Hard on the ears
- 46 Mason's tote
- 47 Develop sores
- 49 Christmas decoration
- 50 Enduring
- 54 Lacking zest
- 57 Modern surgical tool
- 59 Dedicated lines
- 60 Surrounding glow
- 61 Donations for the poor
- 62 Domicile
- 64 Ruckus
- 65 Poor, as excuses go
- 66 Piano man?
- 67 Caesar's garb
- 68 Cow poke?

DOWN

- 1 Bouquet
- 2 Underground drain
- 3 Imitates a hot dog
- 4 "Rocks"
- 5 Like some conditions
- 6 Tuna variety
- 7 Yarn spinner
- 8 Combat mission
- 9 "A Chorus Line" number
- 10 Not just trim
- 11 Quite a few
- 12 Wind instrument
- 13 Broke down, in a way
- 22 Trick-taking game
- 23 #1 spot
- 25 Person to respect
- 27 List in detail
- 29 Car dealer's offering

- 30 Sushi staple
- 31 Auth. unknown
- 32 Helvetica, for one
- 33 Chop finely
- 34 Palo ____, CA
- 35 Way to go
- 37 2007 movie, "Ghost ____"
- 40 Under pressure
- 43 Morsel for Muffet
- 45 Say again
- 48 Sauterne storage
- 49 Small crown
- 51 Everybody's opposite
- 52 Snake with venom
- 53 On one's guard
- 54 Gigantic
- 55 Kind of pilot
- 56 Bluenose
- 58 Shot, e.g.
- 61 Mont Blanc, e.g.
- 63 Lazy fellow

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

A	L	T	O		S	H	A	G		S	H	A	P	E
R	E	A	P		Y	O	R	E		P	O	L	A	R
R	A	S	P		N	O	S	E		U	L	T	R	A
E	N	T	R	A	C	T	E			C	R	E	E	D
S	T	E	E	D		E	N	D	O	N		R	O	E
T	O	R	S	O		R	I	O	T		R	E	N	D
			S	P	Y		C	O	T		A	G	E	D
C	A	P	I	T	A	L			R	E	C	T	O	R
O	R	E	O		B	O	G		R	O	T			
W	E	A	N		B	O	R	E		P	L	A	C	E
L	A	C			P	E	T	A	L		R	E	P	A
		C	E	D	A	R		N	E	G	A	T	I	V
G	O	F	E	R		D	I	V	A		R	E	E	L
A	D	U	L	T		I	T	E	M		A	C	R	E
B	E	L	L	Y		D	E	N	Y		P	E	N	T

HELP WANTED

Visitor Center Student Assistant The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, a hunter based non-profit wildlife habitat conservation organization seeks outgoing college students for part time work, 15-25 hours per week, including mandatory weekends. \$9.00 per hour. Excellent customer service, communication and computer skills required. Retail experience and a passion for conservation preferred. Positions begin in late April. Email cover letter and resume to jobs@rmef.org

The University of Montana spectrum

Discovery Area is currently hiring summer work-study staff for its new location on Toole Avenue. We are seeking energetic educators to engage with the public in hands-on science activities, and front desk attendants to greet guests and do clerical work. The wage for both positions is \$8.15/hour (DOE), and summer work-study is required. Educator applicants may qualify for an Americorps education award. To apply, please send a resume and cover letter (in PDF form) tonicholos.wethington@umontana.edu. For full job descriptions and for more information on our programs, visit our website at spectrum.umt.edu.

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SUDOKU

Difficulty: Medium

		1						
6			7				3	5
								6
					8	9	7	2
		4			1			9
		2	5					
3					7			
	5			3	2		8	
				8		4	6	

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Edited by Margie E. Burke

HOW TO SOLVE:

Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answers to Last Week's Sudoku:

5	7	2	8	4	3	6	1	9
6	9	3	1	5	2	7	4	8
1	4	8	7	9	6	2	5	3
3	1	7	2	8	5	4	9	6
4	5	9	6	1	7	8	3	2
2	8	6	9	3	4	1	7	5
8	3	5	4	6	1	9	2	7
7	6	4	5	2	9	3	8	1
9	2	1	3	7	8	5	6	4

ON THE COVER

Cover design by Zoie Koostra/ @zoiekoostra
Cover story continues on page 4.

The Montana Kairmin is a weekly independent student newspaper at the University of Montana.

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In Search of Home:

Refugees struggle for a place in Missoula

By Brooke Beighle

Joel Kombale entered his family's starkly decorated Missoula apartment in early spring 2017 to his three young children bouncing up and down on the living room couch. He had just gotten home from playing in a pick-up soccer game at McCormick Park, reminiscent of the games played in the refugee camp where he had spent 20 years of his life. His wife, Justine, sat on the couch opposite her children dressed in a colorful, full-length African dress, the bright orange, yellow and purple in stark opposition to the white and brown color scheme of the apartment. She listened as her children chatted about school and their favorite animals, the youngest blushing with excitement at the thought of one day meeting and petting her favorite — a horse.

Just eight months before, the family had arrived in Missoula after spending two decades living in the dire conditions of a Tanzanian refugee camp. The Kombale children, ages 10, 7 and 4, were born in the camp. Their parents, originally from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, had spent the majority of their lives there.

"We've been refugees for 20 years, since 1996," Kombale said. "This one," pointing at Justine, "left the Congo at 14 years. As you can now see, we are now old. I am an old man," he said.

Before settling in for dinner, the children head outside for a couple moments of play, complete with a blue hula hoop and a bike. This friendly scene of the family's present reality is hard to reconcile with their past lives in the refugee camp, where conditions were desperate and harsh, with limited resources and scant living space.

Thousands of people live in close proximity within the confines of the camp, and makeshift homes are usually pieced together with plastic bags, used bedding and anything else that can provide shelter from the harsh African sun. Often destroyed by wind, rain and armed burglars, these homes provide little comfort for the hundreds of families who reside in them. Infection, disease, poor sanitation and malnutrition are common daily struggles for the Africans who live in limbo. Refugees often marry in the camps, give birth to their children in the camps and die in the camps.

The Kombales managed to avoid the third.

The Kombale family arrived in Missoula in July 2016, along with 22 other refugees, with the help of the International Rescue Committee and Soft Landing Missoula. The quiet bustle of the mountain town promised much-needed solace



Hope Freier / @freier_hope The children of several refugee families who are acting in the play "When One Becomes Many" rehearse a dance number while some of the fathers provide drums and the mothers cheer them on in the University Center April 9.

after their long journey. However, like many who dream of living in an idealistic version of America, the realities of daily life in a foreign place are less than perfect.

"People are surprised. Somehow, they don't like refugees," Kombale said. "We meet them on the bus, but when they see us, they are very surprised. They feel something like, 'we are not people.'"

In addition to being the focal point of many shocked expressions, the 27 Congolese refugees who came to Missoula in 2016 spent their first three months in an overwhelming parade of medical screenings, English classes, taking children to and from school, job interviews, apartment hunting, figuring out how to pay rent and setting up checking accounts.

"Take the first 20 years of your life, and condense it down into three months — that is a refugee's experience when they're first here," said Mary Poole, executive director of Soft Landing Missoula, the local refugee resettlement field office. "They have a lot of help, but rent isn't paid for them," she said.

While the support of the many SLM volunteers and community members has been gratefully accepted, the Congolese continue to experience the inevitable ups and downs of finding space in a new country.

Many of the refugees are highly educated and skilled, such as the trained physician and professional musician in the group, yet they will start from humble beginnings in a town where many people work multiple jobs to make

ends meet.

Discrimination has been another hurdle.

"Where we are working, we are being asked many questions: 'How did you get here?' 'Who brought you here?' Such questions are not good," Kombale said. "Missoula should have known we were coming."

The Second Congo War began just one year after the First Congo War had ended. From 1996-2008, reports of rape being used as a weapon of war were reported, while an estimated six million lives were lost to genocide, starvation and disease. Within the 12-year time span of both wars, the people of the DRC experienced upheaval and heartache as they lost their country and loved ones to violence and crime.

"It's really important to look at the process



Hope Freier / @freier_hope Joel Makeci and his wife Bikyeombe Abwe Makeci perform music that Joel wrote while in a refugee camp at Holy Spirit Episcopal Church on April 5.



Tate Samata / @tatesamata Joel Kombale, a Congolese refugee who recently settled in Missoula with his family, sits in his home with his three children April 5.

of how someone gets here," Poole said. "To be considered a refugee, you have to cross an international border due to fear of persecution or death based on race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership with a particular social group. You have to register and sign up as a refugee, usually with the United Nations. This vetting process can take over two years."

The United Nations evaluates every single refugee application individually.

"Lucky is a hard word to use," Poole said. "If you're lucky enough to be persecuted ... it sounds counterintuitive. If you do qualify for

third country resettlement, the U.N. will actually say, 'you qualify to apply here or there' — you can't request where you will be placed."

Presently, there are 65 million displaced people in the world, which includes internally displaced persons, those seeking asylum and refugees. Of the 23 countries that participate in third-country resettlement efforts, the United States accepts 60-70 percent of the 1 percent who qualify for refugee status, with a minute percentage placed in Missoula.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s, the Hmong people arrived from Laos and integrated into

the community over time, doing especially well with their businesses at the Missoula farmers markets. Belarusian and Ukrainian refugees arrived in the mid 1990s, with refugees from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq and Syria arriving in the last 20 years. Though the communication barriers and culture shock proved very difficult in the beginning, these people eventually found their way. The newly arrived Congolese are added to this list.

"When I was 18 years old, I move from my original country, so from Congo to Tanzania," said Joel Makeci, a Congolese musician, husband and father of five. "In the camp is a hard, hard life. I got married in the camp, I had my five kids in the camp, then I moved to America. I thank God. I thank American government who bring us from Africa to America."

As a way to start slowly healing the past and showcase the resiliency of the human spirit, six Congolese refugee families will put their life stories on display in a performance of their original play, "When One Becomes Many." The play is facilitated by one of the University of Montana's Global Leadership Initiative capstone groups and tells the true stories of the actors who fled the Congo, the country they once called home.

"We are trying to put on a drama to show our life in Africa and here in Missoula," Kombale said. "The kids are in the play — they will dance. The parents will dance — all six families. There is some music, singing — many things there. It is like a history of our life."

In the opening scene of "When One Becomes Many," a single child enters the stage and recites an original poem, while motioning desperately

to the stars: "War, War, War. War, where are you from? If it is not lack of love between people?" he exclaims.

The introduction sets the mood for the first scene. The families arrive at a neighboring country's border crossing where police officers approach them holding guns. The families arrive all at once, some missing members, along with many orphans. Everyone on the stage is reliving actual moments in their lives.

In addition to giving the refugees a creative outlet to tell their stories, the play also serves to inform the Missoula community and combat xenophobia, a fear of people from distant lands.

When six GLI students were asked to brainstorm themes for their senior capstone project, the thread that connected them most was storytelling. With the help of GLI adviser Tobin Shearer, graduating seniors in the GLI program, Michael Couso, Elizabeth Koenig, Taylor Wylie, Kathleen Stone, Rachel Dickson and Sophie Hainline, began the collaboration process.

"Part of the project is to define a world problem and a way to try and solve it," said Koenig, a wildlife biology major. "We saw that xenophobia is the world problem that we're trying to solve, and our solution is through storytelling."

Once the group decided on a direction, the project came together organically. The group jumped at the opportunity to work with the recently resettled families from Africa.

"The biggest issue is integration into the community," said computational physics major Michael Couso. "How do you come from a completely different world and hope to survive? It's about being able to communicate."

With over 60 languages spoken within the DRC and rich folklore traditions tracing back through generations, the Congolese are master storytellers. A collectivistic culture at its core, the Congolese definition of family includes the entire network of relatives. Every Congolese learns to sing at an early age, and song is used to make long work days more enjoyable. It is not uncommon for entire communities of multiple families to participate in the storytelling process using song, dance, multiple musical instruments and performances to teach lessons to children and celebrate the joys and pains of life.

It seemed natural that the Congolese tradition would continue in the refugees' new home.

Though the hurdles of xenophobia and integration into a new culture are arduous at best, "When One Becomes Many" is a bright spot in the community. "[Resettlement] cultivates these highly creative, determined, motivated people," Poole said. "When they get here, they don't have any other option than to succeed."

"When One Becomes Many" will be performed on Sunday, April 30 at 7 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. All ticket sales will go directly to the families. Tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$10 for students and may be purchased at the door or through Eventbrite! by visiting www.facebook.com/Bridging-theGapMissoula. Learn more about the GLI senior capstone at the University of Montana's Franke Global Leadership Initiative website at www.umt.edu/gli/stories-folder/Capstone-Bridging-the-Gap.php. •

ASUM POWER BY THE NUMBERS



26

ASUM
Senators

Oversees

\$4.3
million



105

Years that ASUM has existed

Has a seat on the
President's Cabinet?



Yes

Board of Regents?



Yes

* MAS Student Seat



76

University committees



ASUM has at least 2
seats on each committee



Has a role
in program
prioritization

Kelsey Johnson / @kelscjohnson

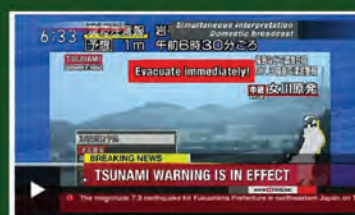
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Breaking out the Birks: Spring fashion in Missoula

By **Melissa Loveridge**

melissa.loveridge@umontana.edu

It's finally spring in Missoula, which means it's time to dig out your Birkenstocks and/or Chacos and put your winter boots and coat in a place you'll inevitably forget come next winter.

Here's your guide to the hottest trends in spring fashion in Missoula.

During summer brewfests or first Fridays in Caras Park, everyone looks ready to be an extra in a Mumford and Sons music video, and you should, too. Pair some rolled-cuff jeans with the trusty wool socks and Birkenstocks combo that has the same cute-ugly effect as hairless cats. Embellish your outfit with a fanny pack. The weirder the print, the better. Don't forget to constantly have either a locally brewed beer or a Pabst Blue Ribbon in your hand.

For hanging out downtown on spring nights, the newest, most original trend is the trusty dad hat with some mom jeans. Top it off with a pair of Vans you've had since high school that are past the point of being artfully destroyed and are just straight-up destroyed.

If you want to look especially Missou-

la, grab literally anything off of a rack at Goodwill and tell people you're wearing it ironically, even if you're actually into the neon orange turtleneck with a duck on the front.

For warmer weather, another tried and true favorite is high waisted shorts and the weirdest T-shirt you can find. Bonus points if it has either a cartoon or an obscure band name on the front.

For your everyday look, it is crucial that you remember the hipster's number one weapon: a Polaroid camera. You can piss off your friends by flashing it in their faces several times a day, but look at how great tiny business-card sized photos look scattered across the floor of your room!

Feeling outdoorsy? Grab a short sleeved T-shirt and roll up the sleeves, get some Big Dipper ice cream in hand, and you're ready to hop into your hammock, hung up on the river trail, and read a Jack Kerouac novel like it's your job. You could also opt to be that kid who brings an acoustic guitar or a ukulele to these places and play the four songs you know several times before lighting a joint in a place you think is sneaky, but is painfully obvious.

The final look is for the hot springs



Rene Sanchez / @nenesanchez440

around Missoula, when you and your friends actually all have a free weekend. You're broke, so the first thing that comes to anyone's mind is camping at the various hot springs around Missoula. They're free,

they're fun, and the best part is that you can hang out in the exact same clothes (or lack thereof) that you sleep in and nobody will be the wiser. Don't forget the boxed wine! •

Pitching phenom Hood helps Griz to best start ever

By **Isaiah Dunk**

isaiah.dunk@umontana.edu

Michaela Hood didn't love the Las Vegas desert, which made the decision to come to snowy Montana easy. It helped that UM and her high school, Spring Valley High School in Las Vegas, are both nicknamed the Grizzlies.

The freshman phenom took over during the first half of Montana's softball season and asserted herself as the team's ace.

Since conference play began, Hood has gone 5-2 with a save, helping push the Grizzlies to first place in the Big Sky standings.

The Las Vegas native boasts an 11-4 record in her first year at the college level. Her 2.21 ERA ranks second in the Big Sky Conference and a recent three-week hot streak has helped her win two consecutive Big Sky Pitcher of the Week honors.

"I think what's making me the most comfortable is knowing that I have my defense behind me. I have everyone supporting me and I don't get in my head as much as I used to," Hood said.

Though she's a freshman, Hood is anything but inexperienced. Her softball playing days go back to when she was six years old, playing with her mom.

"My mom used to play softball, and she really wanted me to start. I did soccer and gymnastics

before that and never liked it. Softball is what I loved," Hood said.

Much of Hood's success has come since March 17 against Seattle, when she won her first of six-straight decisions. Five of those wins were complete games.

"It takes a load off of your bullpen when you have complete games. In one sense, it takes innings away from other pitchers, but in another sense, it doesn't tax us as much," head coach Jamie Pinkerton said. "She's a freshman. She's going to have ups and downs, and she's just in one of those streaks where she's pitching really well. I think she's starting to settle in a little bit."

Hood's only loss since March 17 came in Montana's most recent series against Southern Utah. She gave up no earned runs in a complete game effort in game one, but the Thunderbirds scored on an error late to hand Hood the loss.

Hood later earned the save in the second game of the series and tossed six innings in game three to earn the win.

"She's really showing herself, especially as a freshman," Griz infielder Delene Colburn said. "That can be a lot of pressure, but it just goes over her head. She's pitching great," •



Bella Grannis / @isabellagrannis

Michaela Hood, a Las Vegas native and UM freshman, has led the Griz into the softball season with the best start in program history.

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